

A free, virtuous and enlightened people must know well the great principles and causes on which their happiness depends. — James Monroe

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OPTIMISM GROWS AS FARM PRODUCTS RISE

Analysis of Conditions Affecting Wheat Prices; European Demand Increases

SPECULATION MAY PLAY PART

Operations of Chicago Market Determine Only Temporary Price Fluctuations

Events, the importance of which cannot yet be fully appraised, have been occurring in the United States during the past three weeks. There has been a decided advance in the price of many commodities. Wheat, corn, oats, rye, cotton, oil and silver have shot up in value with such rapidity since the first of the month that unprecedented gloom has been transformed into optimism in many sections of the country. The price of most of these commodities had sunk lower and lower during the past two years until many of them had reached the lowest depths ever known in history. The plight of the wheat and cotton growers has been particularly bad. They have been unable to make enough money on their crops to pay the costs of production. A little more than a month ago some of the farmers who took their wheat to the country elevators received less than twenty cents a bushel. This continuation of depressed prices had strained the morale of many farmers almost to the breaking point. The recent advance in wheat prices alone meant that in some sections of the country farmers were able to sell their products for twice as much as formerly. There is little wonder that this right-about-face movement in the grain market has caused the whole country to join the farmer in rejoicing.

WHAT IT MEANS

Many people consider this advance in the price of agricultural products tremendously important. They predict that it means the turning point in the depression. They point out that increased prices of wheat and cotton have been the first visible signs of the last stages of previous crises. Hope runs high that such is true now and that wheat is leading all other branches of our national industry to recovery. It is significant to note that the increase in grain values alone has added about \$500,000,000 to the potential buying power of the country. Every cent that is tacked onto the price of a bushel of wheat is a benefit of several million dollars to the farmers of the country. An advance of fifty per cent means that the agricultural sections are much better off than they were a month or six weeks ago, or at any time during the past several months. It means that the farmers may have more money to spend. This would have a direct bearing upon every business in the country.

People everywhere are wondering what it is that has caused such ac-



Drawn for THE AMERICAN OBSERVER.

THE PERENNIAL ENIGMA

tivity on the grain markets after so many months of sluggishness. What are the causes of this overnight change in the grain situation? Is the present price trend due to artificial stimulation given by speculators or has there been a real improvement in demand during the past few weeks? Can the future price be maintained at the level which it has now reached or will there be another decline? It is impossible to forecast accurately the direction of future trends for conditions affecting prices are complex. But certain aspects of the present situation may be analyzed. According to reports from reliable sources and from persons closely connected with the grain market, there are several reasons why an increase in the price of wheat might well have been expected at this time.

EUROPEAN DEMAND

The past few weeks have brought a change in the European grain situation. Before the price of wheat shot upward on the Chicago market, rumors were prevalent that Russia would export less wheat this year than in the past. That government, holding vast stores of grain, has threatened price stability for some time. Last year, it exported more than 100,000,000 bushels of wheat. It supplied many of the European markets. Reports indicated that the Russians could not maintain this figure in 1931 because of poorer

crops and certain internal difficulties. During the first ten months of this year they exported 55,000,000 bushels. Exports during the summer were heavy. But since the latter part of September they have been dropping until they have reached a figure far below that of a year ago. The exports of Russian wheat for the first week in November amounted to less than one-fourth the amount for the same week last year. The uncertainty of conditions in the Soviet Union have certainly created renewed hope that America might be able to fill some of the gaps left in the European market.

Furthermore, weather conditions in Western Europe have been unfavorable this year. Heavy rains at harvest time ruined much of the wheat in France and Germany. This has produced a crop shortage in those countries. It has also been reported that some 50,000,000 bushels of wheat stored in elevators and warehouses of these two countries were unfit for milling purposes. This has increased the dependence of Germany and France upon overseas markets for much of their grain. Larger orders from European countries have already started flowing into this country. It is expected that the United States will continue to make large sales to foreign markets during the next few months.

(Concluded on page 7, column 1)

SOVIET ANNIVERSARY OBSERVED AT MOSCOW

Fourteen Years Since Bolsheviks Came Into Power; Improved Conditions Shown

FIVE YEAR PLAN PROGRESSES

But Effects of World Depression Being Felt; Lack of Gold May Retard Plan

Fourteen years ago a small group of individuals, who called themselves Communists, acting quickly and decisively, seized control of the government of Russia. On November 7, 1917, a mammoth celebration was held in Moscow to commemorate that momentous event. That it was a momentous event is evidenced by the fact that the passing of each successive year has seen the ideals of Communism take an ever stronger hold on the people of Russia. The predictions which have been made so freely that the system could not endure have not materialized. On the other hand, the confident assertions made by the Communists themselves, that a revolution would sweep like fire over the entire world, a revolution which would sow everywhere the seeds of Communism, are apparently far from the point of realization. Neither the one thing nor the other has happened. What then has happened? Where does Russia stand today as it enters the fifteenth year of its new existence?

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

First, a glance at the past. When the Communists, or Bolsheviks, came into power in the fall of 1917, Russia was a disorganized and ruined nation. She had suffered heavily from the war and had been obliged to withdraw. She was impoverished. Her army was destitute. The existing government was feeble and unable to cope with the situation. Panic and chaos prevailed. The Communists, under the leadership of Nikolai Lenin, established an iron rule over the country. They brought with them a new order of things and meant to establish that order by force. They were firmly resolved to revolutionize Russia and if possible to revolutionize the world. Theirs was a system based on the teachings of Karl Marx, the renowned German philosopher. No longer should the aristocracy, the rich, the well born, rule. The power would be in the hands of the working classes, the proletariat. Industries should exist primarily for the benefit of the people and not for an individual or group. The workingman should be supreme.

Thus, the existing order in Russia underwent a violent change. It was necessary to institute what amounted to a reign of terror in order to impose the new system on the country. The large and previously influential class of nobles was deprived of its possessions. The people of this class had to flee the country or suffer heavy penalties, in

many cases death. As the Bolsheviks were engaged in the task of retaining and asserting their power the disorganized state of the country became more intensified. The Russian masses have always been used to hardship but rarely, if ever, in their long history have they seen such dark days—such disconsolate days of disillusion and despair—as in the years immediately following the war.

RECONSTRUCTION

Then, in 1921 the tide began to turn. Lenin, now firmly in the saddle, began a policy of reconstruction and reorganization. The peasant was encouraged to sow and harvest his crops. Industry was put on the road to rehabilitation. Banking was reintroduced and the monetary system brought back. These changes, a part of Lenin's so-called New Economic Policy, helped to put Russia on the way to recovery. The ensuing years were nevertheless hard. It was only with great difficulty that the Soviets were able to gain the diplomatic recognition of other nations. They were feared, distrusted, and accused of attempting to foment a world revolution. Nor did they deny that this was the eventual aim of Communism. Reconstruction came slowly, as one country after another recognized Russia and expressed its willingness to trade with her. Some nations were willing to trade but were reluctant to extend formal diplomatic recognition. The United States has persistently refused to recognize Russia.

These conditions lasted until 1928. At that time, Lenin had been dead four years and had been succeeded by Stalin, whose real name is Joseph Vissarionovich Djughashvili. During this year, Russia began to look to the future with greater optimism. The Communists were firmly in power and in a position to look to the progress of the country. They were prepared to embark on a vast enterprise. They planned to industrialize Russia rapidly so as to make her equally powerful with any modern nation. In order to do this they started the famous Five Year Plan. Through this carefully thought-out project they hoped, within a definite space of time, to completely modernize Russia. They set certain goals to be attained at the end of each year. Thus, after each twelve months, they determined to produce so much wheat, to mine so much coal or to manufacture so many tractors. Russia is being made to live according to a plan.

GOVERNMENT

So much for the rise of the Soviets. It may be well to examine for a moment the manner in which they conduct their domestic affairs. The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics is a federation composed of six members all of which are located in the territory formerly comprising the Russian Empire. These republics are governed in a curious fashion. Theoretically the rule is that of the council or Soviet. Each village and town has its own council. From these councils members are elected to higher provincial Soviets for the different provinces. The provincial Soviets in turn elect members to the All Union Soviet Congress. This body meets every two years, its function being to determine on general lines of pol-

icy. In theory, therefore, the Soviet system has the appearance of a democracy. In practice it is far different. The country is actually dominated by the Communist Party, a political unit which permits of no opposition from any other group. The party controls the elections everywhere and sees to it that the All Union Congress is so constituted that it will approve of everything the party does. Actual power in the party is in the hands of a small group of men known as the Central Committee of the Communist Party, which in turn is controlled by one man, the general secretary. Thus, Joseph Stalin, general secretary, is the virtual dictator of the Soviet Union.

We are now in a position to see where

that this class will encourage and aid an uprising against him. The Communist rule is very firmly entrenched in Russia and can afford to relax its vigilance.

PROGRESS

Progress has been made in the matter of industry. The system of wages has been reorganized and skilled laborers receive more pay. Wage scales were formerly divided into so many categories, and a worker coming under one specific category was paid a certain amount. Now, the wage varies according to the skill of the laborer. This has given a greater incentive to the laborers. They are more inclined to try to do better work and to advance. There are thus greater inducements for a

fully. The things they need can only be obtained from three sources, a favorable balance of trade, the extension of credits from the countries or individuals from whom they buy, or their own supply of gold. The country at present has not a favorable balance of trade. The Soviets are buying more than they are selling. During the first six months of this year they had an unfavorable balance of \$75,000,000.

This does not tell the whole story. Recently Russia's best customer has been Great Britain. Before that nation went off the gold standard Russia had made large contracts with her, expecting that payments would be made in the pound sterling, with a value in our money of \$4.86. But the pound now is worth only about \$3.80, and therefore Russia is receiving much less than was anticipated. The same condition prevails in the Scandinavian countries which have also abandoned the gold standard.

As far as Russia's own gold production is concerned there is little information available. It was estimated that the gold mines would produce this year about \$20,000,000. It is reported that the Soviets hope to obtain much more, but just how much cannot be determined. It appears unlikely that sufficient gold will be obtained from this source to be of very material assistance to the country.

It is apparent therefore, that there is a shortage of gold in Russia. The only other manner in which she can buy is through credits. She has been doing a considerable amount of purchasing in this manner, but now when the internal financial situation is less promising there is a growing indisposition on the part of sellers to extend further credits. The United States Department of Commerce has warned American exporters to demand cash or the equivalent in goods in return for their sales to Russia.

Lastly, there has been a change in the wheat situation in the country. Last year Russia exported a large amount of wheat, but this year the sale abroad has fallen off more than half. There is little information as to the cause of this, but the fact remains that the Soviets have been deprived of an important source of revenue.

Thus, the world situation is seriously embarrassing Russia at present. Without the necessary equipment she cannot push forward rapidly the Five Year Plan. And it is becoming harder for her to obtain this equipment. This may result in fairly serious consequences for the Soviet Union. It is held that they may possibly be faced with a financial crisis. At least, they may be obliged to retard the Five Year Plan and to wait more favorable world conditions.

At the recent Librarian's Conference in England, a plan was proposed to lighten the burden of hospital patients by helping them pass the weary hours while recuperating from illness. Several speakers urged closer cooperation between libraries and hospitals. Often a patient's recovery is retarded by worry, discouragement and general despondency. A tactful and capable librarian, it is claimed, would be an effective nurse in prescribing the proper literary medicine.



© Ewing Galloway

A PUBLIC SQUARE IN DOWNTOWN MOSCOW, THE CAPITAL CITY OF RUSSIA

This city has made much progress in recent years and is becoming very modern. Motor busses are now being used extensively.

Russia stands today. The people are still poor. There is a shortage of the necessities of life in the country. There is, for instance, a lack of clothing. Meat is at a premium. But on the whole, the people are being better fed and better taken care of. The government is paying more attention to their needs than before. For a number of years the Russian was greatly neglected. He was made to suffer in order that everything produced in the country could be sold abroad to make money. But this situation has changed. Stalin is concentrating his efforts on building up Russia. A practical person, he has put aside for the present the idea of stirring up a world revolution. He is determined to make the socialist experiment succeed first in Russia.

Therefore, his policy toward Russians has become more moderate. The people no longer live so much in dread of the G. P. U., the well organized and highly efficient secret police. They have more freedom. Then, Stalin has set about to effect a reconciliation with the intelligentsia. This class is composed of many former nobles and people of wealth and position. Previously detested and trampled upon by the Communists, they are now being offered attractive positions and are being invited to take up their way of life under the guidance of the Soviet government. Stalin has been able to do this because he no longer has to fear

worker to keep his position. They no longer tend to drift from one job to another as they did before. This helps to stabilize industry.

How has the Five Year Plan fared? It is not an easy matter to give an exact statement on this point but the indications are that on the whole it has progressed satisfactorily up to the present. In the main the schedules set have been maintained, and while a few branches of industry have fallen down, it is apparent that so far it has been a success. The Soviets do not hope to modernize their country completely within the first five years. This Five Year Plan will be followed by a second, already in preparation, and the second, probably by a third, until the ultimate end is attained.

DEPRESSION

But while all this progress may be noted, the immediate future is not bright for the Soviets. They are being affected by the world depression. Despite their boasts that the Soviet system was "depression-proof," and that economic slumps were but weaknesses of capitalism, Russia too is dependent on the world situation. In order to assure the success of the Five Year Plan, they must have money to buy or manufacture machinery. They must have tractors and other modern agricultural equipment. Without such, the plan cannot continue to operate success-

Unemployment Great International Problem, Says World Labor Leader

Albert Thomas, Representing Geneva Organization, Declares Task Is Being Met by Cooperation in That Body and Efforts of Individual Nations

Mr. Albert Thomas is the director of the International Labor Office at Geneva, a bureau which was founded as a part of the League of Nations' technical service. He has held this office since the very beginning, having been appointed in 1920. His former position was minister of munitions in the French War Cabinet under Premier Clémenceau. Of late, the International Labor Office has been concentrating all its attention on a study of the unemployment situation all over the world; several general conclusions have been reached. THE AMERICAN OBSERVER has obtained a statement of the organization's findings from Mr. Thomas. Speaking exclusively for this paper, Mr. Thomas says:

The world has been swept since the middle of 1929 by a wave of unemployment which has arisen in certain countries to a very considerable height and shows little sign at the moment of receding. By its world-wide character it confirms the view long held by many economists and sociologists that the causes of this scourge are to a large extent international and can only be

eradicated by the coöperation of the different countries concerned, while, on the other hand, its severity shows that the world is suffering from a deep-seated economic malady for which radical measures are necessary.



© W. W. Photo
ALBERT THOMAS

To illustrate the world-wide character of the present crisis it will suffice to say that in Germany there are over 4,000,000 unemployed, and in Great Britain 2,700,000* (these figures are probably the most accurate obtainable owing to the existence of unemployment insurance schemes in those countries), while in Italy more than 650,000 unemployed are registered, in Poland over 400,000, in Australia over 100,000, and in Japan nearly 400,000. In the United States the number of wholly and partially unemployed was estimated at about 8,000,000 at the beginning of this year, and the number has certainly increased since that time.

There are many reasons for this terrible situation, and the more important ones were set out in a resolution adopted by the governing body of the International Labor Office in January, 1931, on the recommendation of its unemployment committee. They are, stated briefly, excessive production of certain agricultural products, maladjustment between the production of raw materials and industrial equipment and the effective market demand, monetary factors, lack of confidence leading to an imperfect circulation of capital, the fall in the price of silver causing a diminished purchasing power in the East, tariff barriers, political debts, extra rapid development of labor-saving machinery and technical progress in general, and lack of adjustment of migration to the possibilities of developing the resources of the world.

Take, for example, the case of agricultural products. Already in 1928 there were signs of an overproduction, particularly of cereals, sugar and coffee. The stocks of wheat, for instance, had increased from 139,000,000 bushels in 1925 to 227,000,000 in 1928, of sugar from 2,700,000 long tons in 1924 to

4,200,000 in 1929, and of coffee from 9,600,000 bags to 18,700,000 bags in the same period. This overproduction would seem to be largely due to excessive development of new lands in spite of the fact that the market was not expanding fast enough to absorb the fresh supplies produced. A remedy will have to be found for this situation either by a slow and painful liquidation of stocks and the forcible reduction of areas under cultivation, under the pressure of the economic situation, or by international coöperation which may facilitate the transition to a more healthy state of affairs. The first steps in this international coöperation have already been taken but the difficulties are very great.

Similarly, in respect to monetary and financial measures the Financial Committee of the League of Nations, and in particular its Gold Delegation, has made recommendations which require the coöperation of the central banks and a new set of proposals, most of which relate to international action, have recently been put forward in Great Britain in the report of the Macmillan Committee on finance and industry. It is possible that this aspect of the problem is the most important of all, and both the League of Nations and the Bank of International Settlements are doing their best to find a solution.

One of the measures which has been considered during the last few weeks is the development of public works which would use capital now lying idle because no private producers want it, and would not only give employment immediately to a considerable number of workmen, but would do something to stimulate the whole economic

mechanism through the additional purchasing power thus distributed. But there are many countries which cannot engage in a big public works policy because they lack the money necessary to carry it out, while other countries have capital available which they would be willing to lend if they had confidence in the security offered. Any method that could be adopted of bringing these two groups of people together would have the additional advantage of stimulating the circulation of capital. A proposal is now under consideration for the establishment of a credit institution which might act as intermediary between the borrowers and the lenders for public works purposes.

There remain two important problems, namely, those of hours of labor and wages. In the governing body meeting, to which reference has already been made, the workers' and employers' representatives were sharply divided on these questions, but, on the other hand, there seems to be a growing realization, by economists and others not directly concerned in production, of the desirability of maintaining wage rates and therefore purchasing power, even during a depression like the present, and of progressively reducing hours of labor when times are more propitious. The efforts that have been made in the United States and elsewhere in connection with these two points have been watched with great interest in other countries. The problems of hours and wages are essentially international because they affect the conditions of international competition; hours of labor are already the subject of an International Labor Convention, and if less attention has so far been paid to wages, that is due solely to the fact that they constitute a far more difficult subject to deal with from the international point of view.

These are the most immediate and urgent of the problems which face the world in connection with unemployment. There are, of course, others as well, but enough has been said to show the essentially world-wide character of the crisis itself and the imperious necessity of finding means through international coöperation not only to hasten the passing of the present crisis but to prevent as far as possible the recurrence of such a catastrophe.

THOUGHTS AND SMILES

Both party platform builders seem to be a little afraid that a wet plank may prove slippery.
—*Detroit FREE PRESS.*

Anyway, let's hope Santa Claus won't lay off any reindeer.
—*James J. Montague in New York HERALD-TRIBUNE.*

The meek may not inherit the earth, but the politicians will promise it to them.
—*Washington POST.*

Maybe the solution of the present economic problem will be found by the farmer moving to the city and the city people moving to the country. Each crowd knows so much better what ought to be done in the other place.
—*Binghamton SUN.*

A European scientist says man and the ape are farther removed than has hitherto been believed. This news will please both parties.
—*Newark EVENING NEWS.*

"In the new era," says Marconi, "thought itself will be transmitted by radio." At present, however, the radio transmits chiefly sound.
—*JUDGE.*

One youth in the block, working manfully for a tackle position on the high school eleven, is laid up for the week with a serious case of athlete's foot — in the small of the back.
—*Detroit NEWS.*

A radio program of singers is known as "The Pullman Porters." There is a strong temptation for the listener to join in on "Where are my wandering shoes tonight?"
—*LIFE.*

A seven-pound grapefruit has won considerable publicity, but the little fellows get in the public eye, too.
—*Minneapolis STAR.*

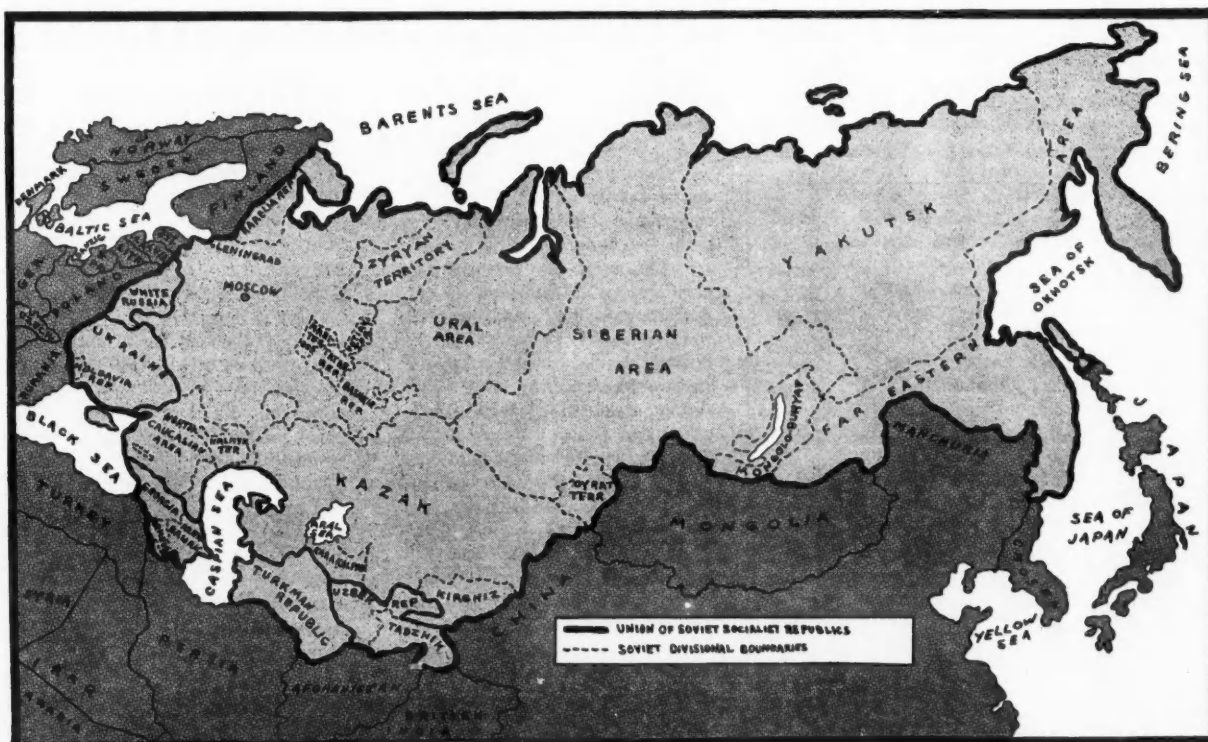
After looking matters over in London, Mr. Gandhi has arranged to go home, probably in the belief that things in India are not quite so bad as he thought.
—*St. Louis TIMES.*

A billion atoms laid end to end, states the Bureau of Standards, would measure an inch, and a search can now be conducted to find some one to check the figures.
—*Pittsburgh POST-GAZETTE.*

It would be just our luck to win the Nobel Prize while Sweden is off the gold standard.
—*F. P. A. in New York HERALD-TRIBUNE.*

Then there is the unfortunate fellow who picked our "Fire Prevention Week" to ask the boss for a raise.
—*PATHFINDER.*

A college professor states that civilization is under construction. And at the present time we seem to be passing over one of its worst detours.
—*Thomaston TIMES.*



THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Prepared for the AMERICAN OBSERVER

* It is anticipated that there will be a considerable increase in the unemployment figures in both Germany and Great Britain during the coming winter, and certain statisticians in the former country estimate that the number may reach six or even eight million.

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THE situation in Manchuria is serious. Fighting on a considerable scale is going on. The League of Nations and the government of the United States are undertaking to stop the fighting and to prevent the formal declaration of war between Japan and China. But thus far their advice has not been heeded. So many rumors, many of them false, are coming from the scene of operations that it is impossible for anyone at this distance to have a very complete and definite idea of what is going on. Certain facts, however, appear to be well authenticated.

We know that Japan has for several years possessed the South Manchurian Railway, which runs north and south through the heart of Manchuria, forming a junction with the Chinese Eastern Railway, a Russian possession, which runs east and west across the northern part of that province. Japan has treaty rights which, among other things, permit her to police the railway zone. The Chinese have never admitted the justice of these treaty provisions which were extorted from them by force. But nevertheless the treaties are legally binding. There is no doubt but that the Japanese in Manchuria have been disturbed by Chinese forces. These forces are not under the control of the central Chinese government. There is a great deal of banditry and rowdiness in Manchuria and no doubt the patience of the Japanese has been sorely tried.

On September 18 the policy of patience which had characterized the actions of the Japanese government came to an end; whether justifiably or not is a matter of dispute. At that time Japanese troops went beyond the railway zone and captured Mukden, the capital of Manchuria. Perhaps the government of Japan, that is, the foreign office, did not approve this action. The military authorities are not completely under civilian control as they are in the United States, and they may have taken matters into their own hands. But at least they created a situation from which the government could not easily withdraw. As to their action since September, Walter Lippmann, writing in the *New York Herald-Tribune*, makes the following comment:



ALL ALONE
Kirby in New York World Telegram

The Japanese military policy has been, it appears, to occupy, up to the Russian sphere of influence in Northern Manchuria, all the railroads built by Japanese capital. By controlling the railroads Japan has control of commerce and of the centers of government; it has been employing this power to set up local Chinese governments which are dependent upon Japan. The procedure is a familiar one, and all the powers have in the past followed it at one place and another, ourselves included, as in Nicaragua, Haiti and elsewhere.

The Japanese army is, in a word, carrying on not "a war" but "an intervention."

Last month the League of Nations Council, with which the United States government associated itself, considered what action should be taken to prevent hostilities. The Japanese declared their intention eventually to remove their troops from Manchuria but they said they could not do so until their treaty rights were definitely recognized, and they said further that before they could leave they must talk matters over directly with the Chinese and come to an understanding. The Chinese declared that they would not negotiate with the Japanese until the Japanese troops were withdrawn. They would not, in other words, discuss the future of Manchuria under conditions amounting to intimidation.

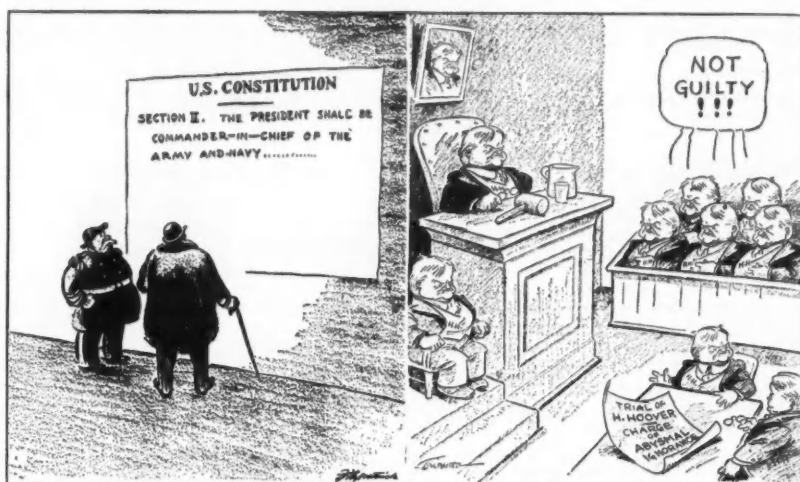
It appears that the League of Nations and the United States might have accepted the reasoning of either of the two governments. They might have said: "This thing that is going on in Manchuria is not a war. It is a case of intervention by a nation to protect what it considers to be its treaty rights. Perhaps the Japanese are right in saying that conditions in Manchuria have been rendered intolerable by Chinese attacks. Perhaps, on the other hand, the Chinese are right in saying that they had not seriously molested the Japanese and that the Japanese invasion was unwarranted. At any rate, the situation in Manchuria is extremely complex and there is no reason why the Chinese and Japanese should not talk things over directly. We will assist in every possible way with the negotiations and we will use our influence to see that as a result of the negotiations Japanese troops will eventually be withdrawn."

The League of Nations and the United States government might have made a declaration of that kind. But they did not. Instead they accepted in the main the reasoning of the Chinese. They requested Japan to withdraw her troops from Manchuria, and set November 16 as the date by which the troops should be removed.

The Japanese refused to accept this advice. They feel that if they were to leave the troubled area now at the behest of the League of Nations it would seem to the Chinese a confession of weakness, and that the irresponsible war lords in Manchuria would seize upon the occasion to make attacks upon Japanese lives and property. They declare further that neither the central government of China nor the League of Nations is in a position to protect Japanese interests. They must therefore protect themselves.

The League of Nations Council is again in session. The European and American leaders who are considering the problem are very anxious to prevent a Far Eastern war. The peoples of the world are sorely in need of better business conditions and a serious war would, of course, have a disturbing effect which might postpone the return of prosperity. Furthermore, if the League of Nations' machinery should fail to check hostilities and if the nations which signed the Kellogg Pact should fail to prevent war, the peoples of the world would lose confidence in the peace machinery which has been built up and would be even less willing than they have been to limit their armaments.

Most unbiased observers appear to believe that Chinese action in Manchuria has been irresponsible and provocative, and



A reminder for the Navy League
Fitzpatrick in St. Louis POST DISPATCH

The Jury Reports
Talbot in Washington NEWS

TWO VIEWS OF THE NAVY LEAGUE INCIDENT

also that recent Japanese policy has been impatient, inconsiderate and imperialistic. It is generally felt that the Japanese have not acted at all in the spirit of conciliation which might be expected of a nation which belongs to the League of Nations and which signed the Kellogg Pact. Whether or not the League of Nations Council, in association with the United States government, has acted in the emergency with tact and wisdom, is a matter about which there is wide disagreement.

Thus matters stand, as rioting, bloodshed and actual warfare continue in Manchuria and other provinces of northern China, as a clash between Japanese and Russians along the Chinese Eastern Railway in northern Manchuria looms as a possibility, and as the League of Nations Council meets again to resume its efforts as a conciliator.

THE committee appointed by President Hoover to investigate the charges made against his naval policies by the Navy League, turned in its report on the 7th of November. The body found that Mr. Gardiner, president of the Navy League, was guilty of "many inaccuracies, false assertions and erroneous conclusions, and his assumptions as to the president's attitude toward the navy is wholly unwarranted." It will be recalled that Mr. Gardiner had accused the president of attempting to "starve the United States Navy."

In making its report the committee declared that the recent economies asked by Mr. Hoover would not cause the size of the navy to be reduced. Rather, it held, we are spending over \$174,000,000 on new construction and \$30,000,000 to modernize several battleships. These programs will not suffer by a one year's arms truce, because they have already been contracted for and will thus not come under the truce. Mr. Hoover said that he would demand an apology of Mr. Gardiner for his statements. The president of the Navy League has not indicated at this writing whether or not he will comply, but he is expected to make a statement.

DINO Grandi is in the United States. The Italian foreign minister arrived in New York November 16 to spend eleven days in the country. He will hold conferences with President Hoover, Secretary Stimson and other government officials. Much importance is attached to this visit because Signor Grandi comes fully vested with authority to speak for the Italian government and to discuss many problems of first vital concern to the entire world. Due to his recent visit to Berlin, he is well prepared to present the German point of view to the administration.

This is not the first trip the youthful Italian statesman has made to the United States. He came here in 1925 with a delegation to settle the war debts problem. At that time he met President Hoover who was a member of the American delegation. But this is the first time that an Italian foreign minister has come to this country

in his official capacity. Signor Grandi believes that the United States and Italy can work together on many problems the solution of which may have a decided effect upon the future history of the world. On the train from Rome to Naples where he boarded the *S. S. Conte Grande*, he stated to members of the American press: "Italy must work with the United States to help the world out of its present troubles. We have many points of contact."

THE round-table conference which has been meeting in London for several months is rapidly drawing to a close. Mahatma Gandhi is expected to return to India at the end of this month. By that time the outcome of the long deliberations between the delegates of India and the representatives of the British government will undoubtedly be known to the world. Whether the Indian members of the conference will take home to their people a message of hope for independence cannot yet be determined. The Mahatma himself is greatly concerned over the results of these concluding conversations. He well realizes that if some definite steps are not agreed upon by the two countries, unsatisfactory conditions will continue to prevail among his people. In speaking of this he said: "If England shows no change of heart toward India, then a fiery ordeal and more suffering lie ahead of us."

In the meantime, there is a feeling in India that Gandhi should return home as quickly as possible. A committee of the All-India cabled him last week from Bombay recommending that a long tour of Europe should not be undertaken. They feel that Gandhi's presence is needed there because of many unsatisfactory conditions which have arisen in certain of the Indian provinces. Some of the British officers stationed in India have recently been attacked by the natives, and there has been fighting between members of the two main religions—Hindus and Moslems.

THE British Parliament is now grappling with many serious problems, but when Prime Minister MacDonald made his opening speech to the House of Commons last week he thrust everything into the background except the question of Germany's financial condition and the whole issue of debts and reparation payments. This problem is considered to be so important in Great Britain that the discussion of the tariff has been deferred until something has been done to prevent another financial crisis in Germany. Mr. MacDonald recommended last week that a definite understanding be reached not only between France and Germany but among all the nations of the world. He pointed out to his colleagues the necessity of immediate action, stating in part: "These negotiations must be put in hand at once, and this government will take up most of its time immediately upon that." The question of debts and reparations is now one of the principal topics of discussion in many of the leading world capitals.

THE LIBRARY TABLE

INTERNATIONAL GOVERNMENT

It is a commonplace that the nations of the world have been brought into much closer contact during the last generation. Their interests merge, or conflict. Each is affected by what goes on in another. They have consequently been forced to co-operate on a greater scale than had been known in earlier days. Machinery, governmental in nature, has developed to take care of activities which affect nations collectively. This machinery for handling international affairs may be termed international government. A number of books have been written on this machinery, and how it works. The last and one of the best of them is "International Government," by Edmund C. Mower (New York: D. C. Heath & Company. \$5.00). The author is a professor of political science in the University of Vermont, and the book is published as one of the Heath Political Science Series.

This substantial volume of 700 pages is comprehensive in its treatment of the general subject. The author begins with a discussion of the nature and origin of international government and the conditions under which the machinery for international coöperation has developed. There is a description and criticism of the methods of diplomacy as they existed previous to the war—an explanation of the way international relations were carried on and the way quarrels among nations were dealt with. Then, in the latter half of the book, there is a full and satisfactory analysis of the League of Nations and all its operations. The Assembly, the Council and the World Court naturally have more careful attention but the less widely appreciated though unquestionably important committees, which carry forward the host of administrative activities are not neglected.

Particularly timely just now, when the League of Nations is meeting a great test in its attempt to prevent war between Japan and China, is the discussion of "The League Council as Conciliator." We have here an explanation of the machinery by which the League undertakes to settle disputes, and then there are accounts of the important cases which have come before the Council for action. Following this is a study of the Council procedure.

At the end of each chapter there is a well-selected list of references, and the book is throughout well supplied with footnotes and references by which important statements of fact are documented.

"International Government" covers a field which cannot be neglected by students of history or government. It deserves a place on the reference shelves of each college and high school library.

A POLISH HEROINE

Jadwiga, Queen of Poland, was one of the purest and noblest creatures that had ever come out of God's hands. Upon her arrival in Cracow to take possession of the vacant throne, still a mere child, not quite fourteen years of age, she rapidly rose to the situation. Conscious of her enormous responsibilities, realizing that Poland, exhausted by incessant invasions, war, and domestic strife, desperately needed peace, she understood that nothing but a personal sacrifice could save the country. For her country's good, on the altar of duty, she made the supreme offering of her happiness. Though dearly beloved by her own people, she has been for centuries almost entirely unknown in the West of Europe. It evidently is the mission of an American lady, the authoress of this book, to acquaint the English-speaking public with that sublime figure.

Thus does Ignaz Jan Paderewski, the great pianist and former prime minister of Poland, introduce the new biography of this great Polish heroine—"Jadwiga," by Charlotte Kellogg (Mrs. Vernon Kellogg)—New York: Macmillan. \$2.50.

Jadwiga was born in 1373. In childhood she was betrothed to Prince William of Austria and during the following years there developed between the two a genuine love affair. They anticipated marriage when they should become of age, but it was decided by the council of the crown that it would be better for her to renounce the childhood betrothal and marry Yagiello, the Grand Duke of Lithuania. She finally accepted this fate and by her marriage united Poland and Lithuania and helped to set Poland along the road of progress and advancement which it followed for four centuries.

Mrs. Kellogg tells the story of love, of renunciation, of a devotion which was both religious and patriotic. Romance and authentic history combine to make this one of the most interesting biographies of the year.

A HISTORY OF TRANSPORT

"The Romance of Transport," by Ellison Hawks (New York: Thomas Y. Crowell Company. \$3.00) tells the story of the means which have been employed by man from the earliest days to the present to move his goods from place to place. "Travel and transportation, which we define respectively as the moving of persons and of things," says the author in his opening paragraph, "formed one of the earliest problems to engage the attention of man." In the earliest stages of society man relied upon his own unaided efforts. "Until comparatively recent years the materials for every mound, earthwork and embankment, and for every wooden and brick structure,

were all carried and elevated by human muscles." Then came the beasts of burden, and we have the camel caravans, the pack mules, the elephants and horses and dogs. Sometime between 4000 B. C. and 1500 B. C. wheel vehicles came into use. The sledges, which had been known before, were first supplied with rollers slipped in between the runners and the ground, and then "it was borne in upon man that a roller was neither necessary nor desirable and that two 'slices' from its extremities would serve the same purpose equally well." The stagecoach was first used about 1640, and continued to operate for 200 years. The horse-drawn omnibus came a little later. Then we see the introduction of the railways, and later still the coming of the motor car.

At the same time that all these developments were taking place on the land, transport by water was undergoing changes, slow but not the less dramatic. The logs or rafts, as ancient as the sledge on the land, were improved. After a while there were the wooden boats, such as were used by the Greeks and the Romans. A later development was the wooden ship like those with which Columbus navigated the ocean. The steamship came in due time and developed into the great steel ocean greyhounds—the floating palaces of the present day. And then the balloon developed into the airship. We have the rapidly growing system of air transport at this moment.

All these stages in the history of transport are described by Mr. Hawks in such a way as to merit the title which he has selected, "The Romance of Transport," for it is a romantic tale that he tells. The book is fully illustrated. There are pictures of all the various methods of transportation which the different branches of the human race have used. It is not to be supposed, of course, that one form of transportation was abandoned as another came into use. All the primitive devices which have ever been used are in use today somewhere, and are described in these pages.

This problem of transportation which engaged the minds of men in the early days of civilization remains in its complex forms as one of the pressing problems of our own age. A setting of this problem is admirably furnished by "The Romance of Transport," but the book does more than to supply a background for the study of a present problem. It furnishes entertainment to all those who are thrilled by vivid accounts of human achievement. It is an informative and attractive book.



Karamoja Chieftain Ready for Battle. An illustration from "Told at the Explorers' Club," Albert and Charles Boni.

MODERN EXPLORATION

"Told at the Explorers' Club," edited by Frederick A. Blossom (New York: Albert and Charles Boni. \$3.50), is a collection of adventure stories. They have the added interest of being true—of being the accounts of personal experiences as related by thirty-three of the greatest of present-day explorers.

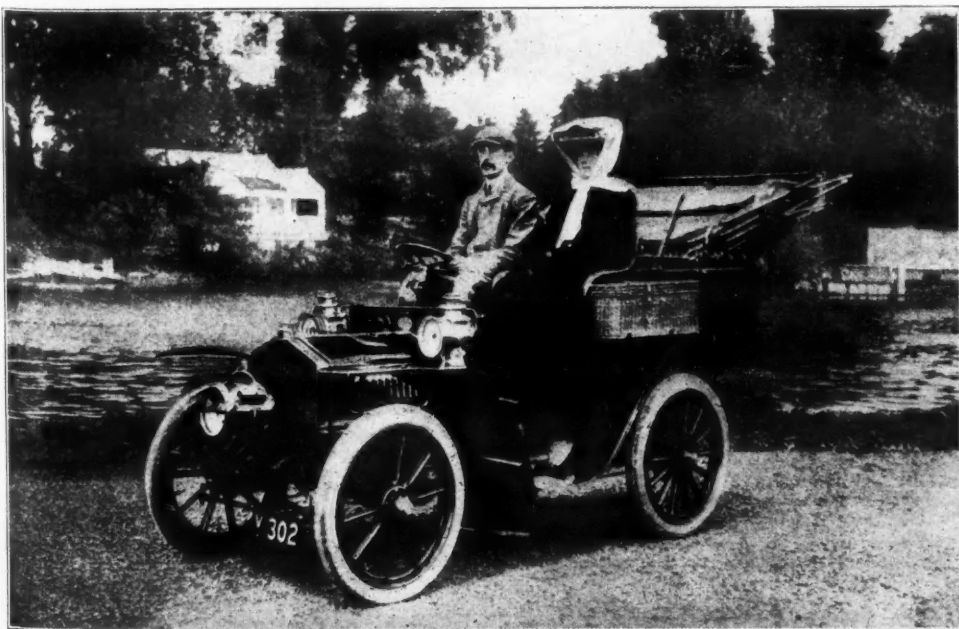
It is hard to do justice to this book in a few short paragraphs. Perhaps one can do no better than to recite the names of some of the men who tell here of thrilling moments in their careers. Roy Chapman Andrews tells of his journey "Through the Wilderness of Northern Korea to the Long White Mountain." Charles A. Lindbergh gives a vivid account of a leap he was obliged to make from a disabled airplane. Vilhjalmur Stefansson furnishes an exciting story of an encounter with a polar bear. Sir Hubert Wilkins describes adventures "With the Aborigines of North Australia." George F. Shearwood tells of an adventure with Karamoja tribesmen in Africa—with savages, a sample of whom is shown in the illustration on this page.

Those who look longingly to the distant past as the time when there was adventure to be had—when there were worlds to explore—should read this book. The thirty-three stories, each told by an outstanding explorer of our own day, are no less exciting because they are true.

A CORRECTION

An error occurred in our issue of October 22. The football picture on page 8 was said to represent a scene in the Northwestern-Notre Dame game of October 10, but after the paper was off the press we discovered that Wide World Photos had sent us by mistake a picture of a Northwestern-Nebraska game. Wide World Photos regrets sending us the wrong picture and we regret our error in passing it on to our readers.

PRONUNCIATIONS: Saar (sahr), Danzig (dant'zig), Jadwiga (yad-vee'ga), Yagiello (yah-gel'lo), Ignaz Jan Paderewski (ig'nahts yahn pad-er-ev'ske), Stalin (Stah'lin), Nikolai Lenin (nik'o-li—last i as in time, le'nin—e as in let), Vissarionovich (vis-sar-ee-oh'no-vich) Djhugashvili (jew-gash-veel'lee—a as in art).



The First Rolls-Royce—a product of 1894. An illustration from "The Romance of Transport," Thomas Y. Crowell Company.



LAST week we gave consideration to the cabinets of the United States and Great Britain. We undertook by an explanation of the work of the British cabinet to furnish a background

American and British Backgrounds

for the better understanding of the present political situation in Great Britain. At the same time we dealt with the problem which the Constitutional Convention of 1787 considered, of developing an executive department, and showed how our cabinet had grown into its present form without being built upon any specific authorization for such a cabinet in the Constitution.

We shall go on this week with a further comparison of the constitutional systems of the two great English-speaking nations. We have two objects in doing this. Such a discussion may help classes in European history to see how a European constitution compares with our own, to see how it has grown and developed and what its present nature is. There is the more significance in this study of the British Constitution, since it has been made the model for most of the other modern European constitutions. This kind of study may also serve classes in American history and in civics or political science, in that it may furnish a background for an understanding of the nature of the American Constitution and of the contribution toward the development of a constitutional system which the Convention of 1787 made.

It is frequently said that the American Constitution differs from the British in that it is written and fixed and definite, while the British Constitution is unwritten and hence fluid and flexible. But, as W. B. Munro says in "The Government of the United States," this distinction is not as valid as many people have supposed. "When we wish to compare the constitutions of different countries," he says, "we should first reduce them to a common denominator. It is absurd to contrast the constitution of England, meaning thereby the whole body of fundamental laws, court decisions, and usages which determine the way in which Englishmen are governed, with the constitution of the United States, meaning by that term only the written document and taking no cognizance of the whole body of interpreting laws, decisions, usages, and devices which supplement and determine the real application of those written provisions. There never has been and never can be such a thing as a rigid constitution. All constitutions are flexible; it is only that some are rather more flexible than others. And the degree of flexibility does not depend upon the ease or difficulty with which the constitution can be amended, for it is not by the process of formal amendment that a constitution acquires suppleness."

Professor Munro goes on to show that the English constitution is not really more flexible than the American. He emphasizes the fact that our Constitution is more than the document agreed upon by the Convention of 1787. For example, he points out the fact that manhood suffrage is part of the American Constitution; that is, it is a part of our established way of governing ourselves. It is not merely a transitory device by which we, on some particular occasion, carry on an election. It is a feature of our fundamental law. It is a part of our governmental system. Yet it was not established by the makers of the Constitution in 1787. In practically no part

of the United States was there manhood suffrage when the national government began its operations. This change in our Constitution (though not a change in the document itself) was effected gradually during the first half century of our national history.

During this same period of manhood suffrage, which is now an important feature of the British governmental system, also came into effect. The fact that there was in the United States a document called the Constitution, and that there was and is no such similar document in England, did not prevent this constitutional development from coming about during the same period in the two countries. Manhood suffrage is now a part of our Constitution because it has been written into our laws by legislatures. It is a part of the British Constitution because it has been written into the laws of Great Britain by Parliament.

Here is another interesting comparison cited by Professor Munro. In the United States the Supreme Court may declare an act of Congress unconstitutional, and after the Supreme Court has thus acted, the law in question is null and void. Similarly, in England, there is such a thing as cabinet responsibility; that is, when a cabinet no longer is sustained by a majority in the House of Commons, it resigns. Now there is no written and constitutional authorization in America for the

declaring of acts of Congress unconstitutional, and there is no written constitutional authorization in England for the resignation of a cabinet when it loses its majority, yet the power of the Supreme Court to declare acts unconstitutional and cabinet responsibility are parts of the constitutional systems of the two nations.

It is commonly supposed that if any vital change in the governmental system of America is desired it must be brought about by an amendment to the Constitution. If that were true, our Constitution would indeed be quite rigid, for it is difficult to obtain an amendment to the Constitution. An amendment must be submitted by a two-thirds vote of both houses of Congress, or by a convention called by the legislatures of two-thirds of the states; and then it must be ratified by legislatures or conventions in three-fourths of the states. Only nineteen amendments have been made during the 144 years which have elapsed since the Constitution was written.

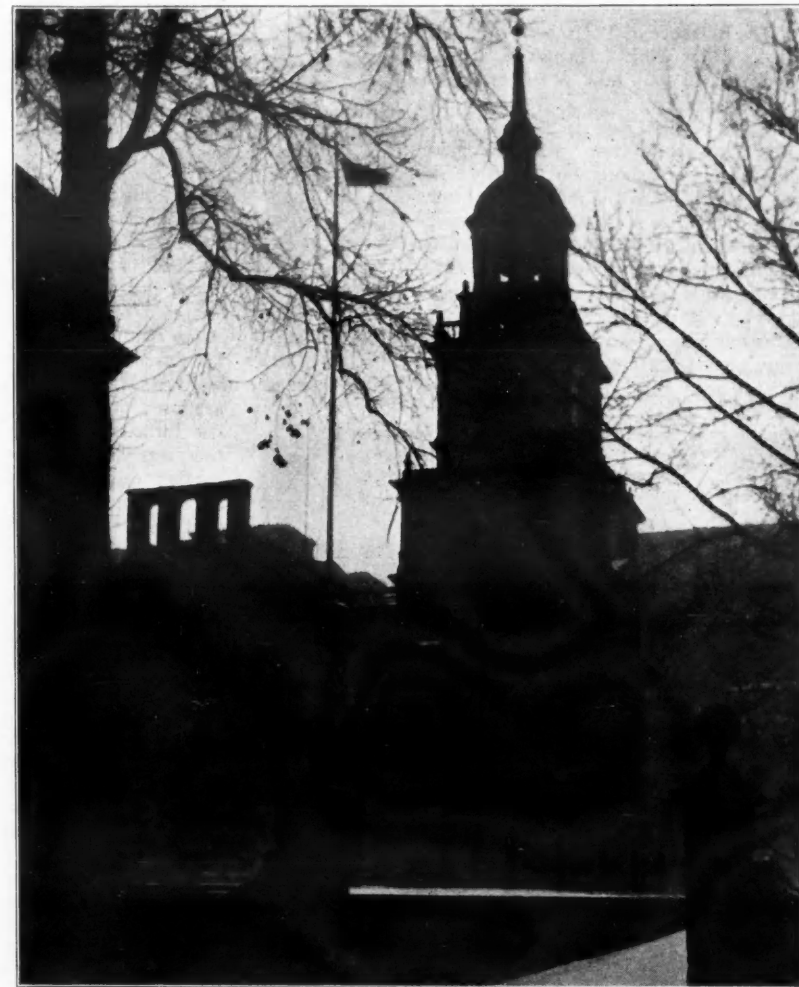
But the changing of our governmental system is not so difficult as that. It may be changed by laws of Congress and the states, or by judicial decisions, or by usage. Certainly the manner in which the chief executive of our republic is chosen is quite a fundamental feature of our government. Yet, as a matter of fact, the election of our president is carried on in a way which the Constitution does not

prescribe. The Constitution provides for an election, not by the people themselves, but by an electoral college. The people of the states do not vote directly for a president. They vote for members of the electoral college, and the wording of the Constitution gives these electors the right to choose the president. It was the intention of the makers of the Constitution that these electors should exercise that privilege. It has come about, however, as a matter of custom that the electors are merely rubber stamps. They are, by implication, pledged in advance that they will vote for the man whom a convention of the party to which they belong (a convention such as is not mentioned in the Constitution, nor thought of by the makers of it) has declared. A man who was elected on a Republican ticket as an elector in 1928 would no more have thought of voting for anyone but Herbert Hoover for president than the king of England would think today of exercising the veto power.

It is, of course, true that a man who is elected to the electoral college has the legal right to vote for whomever he pleases. One of New York's electors, elected on the Hoover ticket, could have cast his vote for Alfred E. Smith at the last election and he would have been within his legal rights. Similarly the king of England might veto an act of Parliament and still not violate any constitutional provision or any law, but it is simply unthinkable that either of such actions should ever occur. It has become a part of the constitutional procedure—a part of the fundamental law of the land—that an elector in America shall vote as he is pledged and that the king of England shall refrain from using his veto power.

We may consider another feature of the American governmental system which is unknown to the written Constitution. This is "senatorial courtesy." A very good description of the origin and development of this part of our fundamental law is found in James Bryce's "American Commonwealth."

As the President is charged with the whole Federal administration, and responsible for its due conduct, he must of course be allowed to choose his executive subordinates. But as he may abuse this tremendous power the Constitution associates the Senate with him, requiring the "advice and consent" of that body to the appointments he makes. This confirming power has become a political factor of the highest moment. The framers of the Constitution probably meant nothing more than that the Senate should check the President by rejecting nominees who were personally unfit for the post to which he proposed to appoint them. The Senate has always, except in its struggle with President Johnson, left the President free to choose his cabinet ministers. But it early assumed the right of rejecting a nominee to any other office on any ground which it pleased, as for instance, if it disapproved his political affiliations, or wished to spite the President. Presently the senators from the State wherein a Federal office to which the President had made a nomination lay, being the persons chiefly interested in the appointment, and most entitled to be listened to by the rest of the Senate when considering it, claimed to have a paramount voice in deciding whether the nomination should be confirmed. Their colleagues approving, they then proceeded to put pressure on the President. They insisted that before making a nomination to an office in any State he should consult the senators from that State who belonged to his own party, and be guided by their wishes. Such an arrangement benefited all senators alike, because each obtained the right of practically dictating the appointments to those Federal offices which he most cared for, viz. those within his own State; and each was therefore willing to support his colleagues in securing the same right.



INDEPENDENCE HALL—PHILADELPHIA

The Constitutional Convention met here in 1787, and the Constitution was framed in the same room which had witnessed the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

© E. Galloway



IT'S PLEASANT TO SEE SOMETHING GOING UP FOR A CHANGE
Darling, in New York HERALD-TRIBUNE

OPTIMISM GROWS AS FARM PRODUCTS RISE

(Concluded from page 1)

Crop conditions in this country seem to point to a smaller production of wheat in the future and consequently to higher prices. There has been unusually dry weather in many of the sections which grow winter wheat. Last year's crop had a much brighter beginning than the one for this year. There have also been substantial reductions in the total acreage sown in wheat. For many months, the Federal Farm Board has been urging the American farmer to plant less wheat if he would solve the problem of a huge surplus. It appears that this has been done to a large extent. Not only was the acreage of spring wheat reduced, but the farmers seem to have planted less winter wheat than usual. Chairman Stone of the Federal Farm Board estimates that the total number of acres planted in winter wheat this year is about twenty per cent less than a year ago.

The acreage is also smaller in other wheat producing countries, notably Argentina and Australia. Present reports from these countries indicate that this year's production is about 50,000,000 bushels less than that of last year. These reductions will undoubtedly have a great effect in cutting the world surplus, which has been extremely large.

DANGERS FROM SPECULATION

While all these factors indicate that the price of wheat should naturally rise, there is danger that speculation may be carried too far on the grain markets of the country. Many people feel that there is a good chance to make money when the price starts ris-

ing. They do not know the price for which wheat will sell next week or in a month; they are not familiar with the demand which will prevail at a future date; they cannot tell how much the future supply will be decreased by crop failures. But they feel that now is an excellent time to buy. Many of them rush into the market and purchase wheat, hoping that the price will soar high enough to net them a handsome profit. This increased buying for speculative purposes often shoots the price to very high levels—much higher than it would go if governed solely by the forces of supply and demand. Of course, when the speculators start selling, millions of bushels are dumped on the market. This causes the price to slump violently. These operations do not affect the average yearly price levels because a high price cannot be maintained unless there is a real demand for wheat. But they do have

temporary effects which often cause temporary fluctuations in prices.

Most of this speculation takes place at the Chicago Board of Trade, the central grain market of the United States. It is not the only grain exchange; there are about forty in the various states. The most important are located at Minneapolis, Duluth, St. Louis, Kansas City, Milwaukee, Omaha, Peoria, Toledo and Detroit. Canada's central market is located at Winnipeg. Liverpool is the largest market in the world. It occupies the central position for the European importing markets and naturally exerts great influence upon conditions of the markets in this country.

THE CHICAGO MARKET

The Chicago grain exchange furnishes a trading place for dealers from all parts of the globe. Exporters, millers, manufacturers of grain products, make purchases of wheat and corn to replenish their stocks and fill their orders. Farmers' agents, representatives of grain elevators display their grain samples and bargain with prospective customers. This large emporium is suitably located in the heart of the agricultural section. It has excellent transportation facilities, both rail and water, to handle the millions of bushels of grain which pass through its market each year. But the Board of Trade itself does not enter into any transactions. It does not buy or sell a single bushel of wheat. It furnishes a set of rules which must be adhered to by those who wish to do business on the floor of its large trading room. It sends out price and market information to all other grain exchanges and keeps the important newspapers posted on what is happening on the world markets.

The volume of business transacted on the Chicago exchange is tremendous. More than half a billion bushels were purchased during the week ending November 7. This does not mean that such an amount was actually shipped in and out of Chicago. Only a small part of the sales cover grain which is in the elevators, warehouses or railroad cars at Chicago. Most of the sales are made for future delivery in December, May, July or September. Transactions which do not involve immediate delivery are known as future sales or "futures."

BULLS AND BEARS

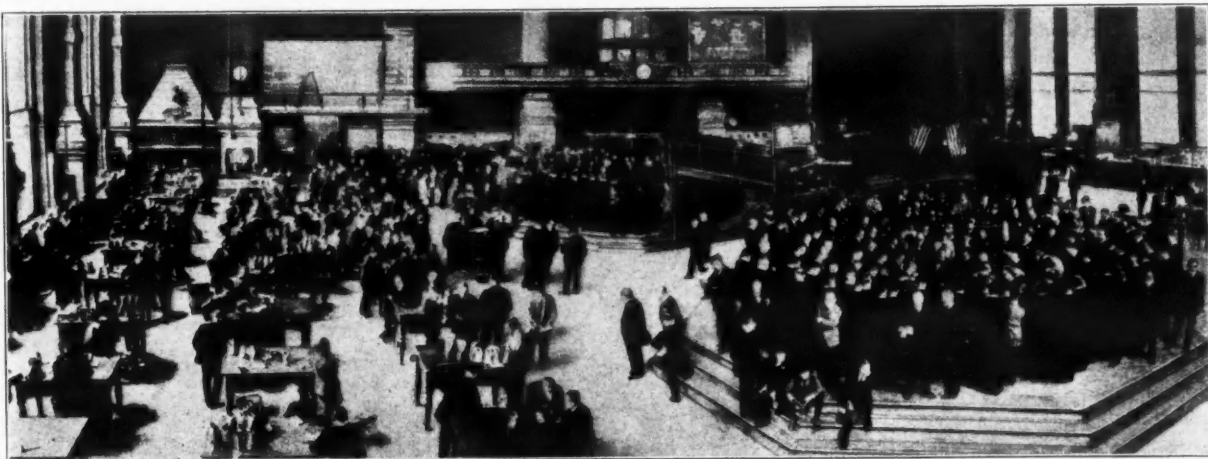
It is in the future market that most of the speculation takes place. Many people enter the market and buy wheat with no intention of using it for milling or exporting purposes. They merely wish to speculate on future price trends, hoping to make large

profits at a later date. A man who buys wheat now and holds it until there is an increase in price is known as a "long" trader because he is dealing with the long swing of the market. This is the most common type of speculation engaged in by the general public. When much buying of this nature takes place it causes the price to rise and it is known as a "bull" movement. A downward trend of the market is known as a "bear" movement.

There is another type of speculation very common in the grain markets. It is practiced by those who believe that the price is going down instead of up. A man may think that wheat will sell for five cents a bushel less in May than at present, so he sells several thousand bushels at the present price, agreeing to deliver it at a later date. He does not have the wheat, but figures he can buy it cheaper before he has to make the delivery. This is known as selling "short." If there is a price decline before May, he makes a profit on this speculation. The success or failure of either of these ventures depends entirely upon the trend of the market. There is always danger with these movements. Certain groups often try to manipulate the market so as to force the price in the direction which they desire. They sometimes use unfair methods. For instance, a group of "short" sellers wish the price to go down. They scatter rumors which if believed, would cause prices to fall and frighten people into selling. The Chicago Board of Trade endeavors to stop manipulations of this nature, and watches closely the activities of such speculators.

THE IMPORTANT FACTORS

All these things cause spurts and flurries in the market. But it is the world supply of wheat, considered in relation to the demand for it, that permanently determines and fixes the price which a farmer in Kansas will receive for his wheat. If a burdensome surplus continues to hang over the market, he will not receive much for it. But if the indications point to a disappearance of this surplus within the next few months, the future price will undoubtedly remain much higher than it has been. It must be remembered that there is no shortage in the world today. On October 1 of this year, the world supply was estimated at 533,000,000 bushels. This was only 11,000,000 bushels less than the supply a year ago. But it was still higher than in any year except 1930. It is hoped, however, that the improved conditions will continue to prevail so that the markets of the world may gradually absorb this surplus and permit the wheat price situation to become normal again.



THE FLOOR OF THE TRADING ROOM; CHICAGO BOARD OF TRADE

The operations are no longer carried on in this room as a new building supplanted the old one last year. But this room saw many great "battles of wheat" during the past generation.

Courtesy of U. S. Department of Agriculture

Safety Measures Protect Workers

Large Industries Paying Attention to Employees' Welfare

Upon entering a modern factory, perhaps the most striking thing is the predominance of the machine. One is deafened by the whirring of giant dynamos, the thudding of steam-hammers, the shriek of circular saws biting through steel plate, and myriads of other metallic sounds. It is only after becoming used to this din that one notices the men who stand behind these machines, oiling the bearings, feeding material for transformation, regulating pressure and the like. Up until a few years ago, industry took more care of its machines than it did of the men who operated them.

Now, however, a shift in the other direction is being experienced. It has been adequately proved that the efficiency of a machine is no greater than that of the man or men who control it. A worker who is in constant danger of accident or death can scarcely be very efficient. There are several organizations which have been working for some time on nothing but the study of measures to insure the safety and health of the industrial worker. Insurance companies too have found that their services in compiling records of the causes of industrial accidents are frequently helpful in locating a dangerous practice.

The installation of innumerable safety devices has marked the more recent period of our industrial development; the improvement has been more noticeable in the larger plants, employing thousands of men and women. Those whose daily tasks expose them to the risk of being blinded by flying metal chips and electric sparks are provided with specially adapted masks or goggles. Gear boxes and fly-wheels are encased in solid steel sheaths; in the old days, these gears often flew apart, sending steel cogs hurtling about in all directions, inflicting serious wounds on the workers. Presses and saws are fitted with guards to prevent the operators' hands from being mangled and crushed. Insulated tools and gloves protect electrical workers; high voltage wires are properly covered and marked. Flooring in the new factory is of such material as to prevent slipping, for the number of those injured from falls is appalling. Warning signs are coming into more practical use.

The most important thing of all, however, is that new workers are being given thorough instruction as to what their work is, and how to go about it in safety.

The railroad is perhaps one of the most liberal contributors to the roll of industrial accidents; here, the provision of safety facilities has not been so marked. Indeed, it is an everyday occurrence to see a section-hand standing between two cars, waiting to join them as they crash together. New auto-



A MODERN FACTORY IN WYOMISSING, PA.

© Ewing Galloway

Greater attention is being given to the construction of factory buildings in order to provide the workers with light and air.

matic couplings intended to do away with the necessity of this risk have been invented, but their installation has been far from general; many deaths each year are due to this practice alone. It must be said, however, that signalling on railways has advanced to a great degree in the past decade or so; train mishaps are becoming much less frequent. It is hoped that in time railway accidents will be no more frequent than in any other branch of industry.

Besides the actual safety of the industrial worker at his task, it has been found that health and sanitation play a great role in his well-being; here again, the larger companies seem to have made greater advances than the smaller. Some of the plants have private hospitals attached, or a corps of doctors and nurses in a fair-sized dispensary. Others have made arrangements with local hospitals to care for the sick and injured workers. One insurance company addressed a questionnaire to 1,000 Chicago industries; it was discovered that practically all the larger concerns had fairly good medical safeguards, whereas the less important firms were often satisfied with first-aid kits. Even that slight precaution was neglected in a number of cases. Medical men who have written on the subject feel that there is room for a great deal of improvement along these lines. As far as factory technique is concerned, the installation of dust-collectors and scientific ventilators has done much toward the elimination of diseases which are inherent in some types of unhealthful work.



LOOKING WEST ON CHICAGO'S SKYLINE

© E. Galloway

The Century of Progress Exposition of 1933 will be held along the lake front, where the cars are parked in the picture. A bit farther south, an island has been thrown out into the lake for another series of exhibits.

Boston Tax Fund Supports Jobless

Public and Private Welfare Agencies Work Together

The six weeks drive for funds to be used in unemployment relief is drawing to a close; the appeal has been nationwide, and all the resources of publicity have been used to reach people in every corner of the country.

There is one city, however, which strives to care for its citizens in distress without depending solely upon this mobilization of charity. Boston has had great success in these matters through the combining of public and private relief agencies. The program is really an application of the Massachusetts policy whereby each citizen shares the responsibility of aiding his neighbors in want. Relief money is appropriated from tax revenues. The extraordinary efficiency of the plan is, however, largely due to the coöperation of municipal agencies with private institutions. The latter are housed in the Public Welfare Building rent-free, so that collaboration may be made easier. Each request for aid is carefully recorded in a file index to which all organizations have access. This avoids duplication and assures the proper distribution of funds. In the past, it has happened that the staff of the public bureau has become insufficient to handle the number of appeals made to it; the personnel of the private agencies has always been ready to lend its services at these times. Conferences between public and private welfare officials have built up a unity of purpose and a common policy which simplify the work to a great degree.

This coming winter looms as the most formidable yet to be contended with; accordingly, the budget of the Boston Public Welfare agency will be increased, and more money appropriated for its work. Private subscription will of course be expected to become more general, but the great part of the burden rests upon the tax money.

RADIUM

A heartening piece of news to the medical and scientific world came from Canada recently in the discovery of a new deposit of ore containing radium. The millions of people in the world whose lives are annually wiped out by the treacherous cancer disease will receive this news with added hope. The present world supply of radium amounts to less than three cupfuls, which makes it an extremely expensive treatment for cancer. The price is now \$70,000 per gram. The deposits in Canada contain the richest ore known to the world. It yields from three to four grams of radium to the ton. The mines of Belgian Congo, located in South Africa, have been considered as having the richest ore in the world, but they yield only a gram of radium per ton.